

NOAA Fisheries

**Update on Completion of Action Items
from the 2001 Coastal States/National Marine Fisheries Service
Cooperative Fisheries Program Workshop**

March 31, 2003





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The April 2001 Coastal States/NOAA Fisheries Programs Workshop was a great success.

29 Action Items resulted from the workshop.

The majority of these involved commitments from NOAA Fisheries to address concerns raised by workshop participants.

This presentation will summarize the progress made addressing those Action Items.





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Summary Status of 29 NOAA Fisheries Action Items

<u>Status</u>	<u>Number of Actions</u>	<u>Comments</u>
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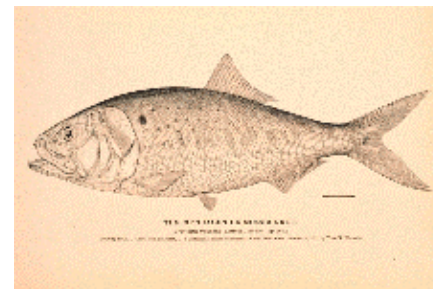
Completed	20	Fully completed.
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Combined	4	2 ecosystem based management actions and 2 actions with USFWS were combined and have been completed.
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Ongoing	3	Progress, continuing.
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Incomplete	1	Progress made, but not considered completed.
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Held over for 2003 Meeting	1	Need further guidance from State participants.
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COMPLETED:

- We have established the State - Federal Fisheries Division, which will work to improve communications between NOAA Fisheries and the States.
- The Regulatory Streamlining Process is being developed to improve publishing final rules in a more timely manner.
- A Recreational Fisheries Quota Monitoring Workshop produced a “Draft Proceedings,” addressing useful approaches for recreational quota monitoring.



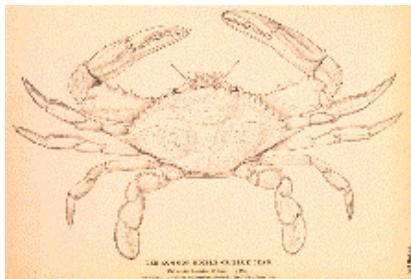


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COMPLETED:

- 3 proposals were developed to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Act, allowing Councils to collect socio-economic data.
- The Office of Protected Resources received funding specifically for economic and social impact analyses needed for actions.
- The Federal Interagency Task Force and the Chesapeake Bay Program are focusing on exotic species.
- NOAA Fisheries Aquaculture Council has developed a Code of Conduct for Aquaculture.





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COMPLETED:

- NOAA Fisheries continues the dialogue with the Commissions and States to revitalize the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act.
- A contract with the State of ME supports development and implementation of a right whale program. Funds were given to NFWF for additional state support.
- A work group has been formed for “E-Permitting” and established a national E-Permitting pilot program to support “one-stop shopping.”
- NOAA Fisheries has held internal discussions on the possible transfer of a number of fisheries to State management. Red drum is being transferred from the SAFMC to ASMFC under the Atlantic Coastal Act.





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NOAA Fisheries has completed 10 specific requests from the States including:

- Increased participation at International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) meetings,
- Red drum enforcement related to a NOAA-GC policy of “Fix-it Notification,”
- Enforcement statistics related to ESA/MMPA investigations and prosecutions,
- Information regarding additional conservation benefits from the Columbia River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and Section 7.





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COMBINED and COMPLETED:

- NOAA Fisheries has set up a team to review the “Big Picture” of EFH and linkages to an “Ecosystem Approach.”
- NOAA Fisheries consults with the US Fish & Wildlife Service on Biological Opinions and the Sport Fish Restoration Program ESA Section 7 reviews, e.g.:
 - = SER Trawl Fishery Biological Opinion;
 - = Collection of recreational fisheries data in Florida;
 - = Evaluation of artificial reefs in North Carolina; and
 - = Gamefish behavior in Florida.



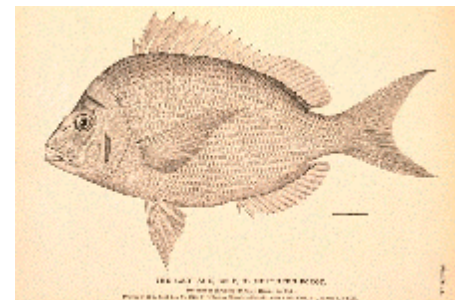


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ONGOING:

- Communications and coordination continue among NOAA Fisheries, the States, and the Commissions on data collection issues and funding.
- Discussions continue on gear modifications regarding right whales, Hawaiian longline fisheries, NED, etc.
- NOAA Fisheries is evaluating the ability to give State comments and concerns special consideration in the review/decision/implementation process for Federal regulations.



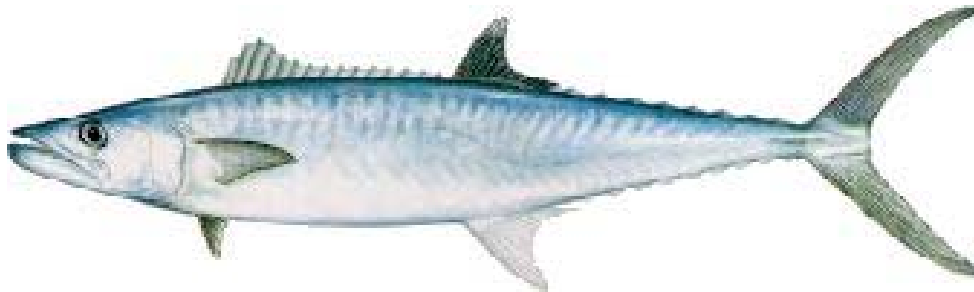


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INCOMPLETE:

- NOAA Fisheries has not finished a review of roles and responsibilities of the various Federal agencies during the issuance of fish consumption advisories.

=NOAA Fisheries continues to be involved in the Gulf of Mexico Mercury Synoptic Survey.





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HELD OVER FOR 2003 MEETING:

NOAA Fisheries was asked:

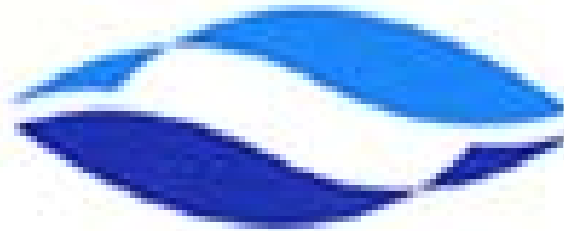
- To form a work group with selected state fisheries personnel, &
- To improve the integration of stock assessment and monitoring information in the Council and State fisheries management decision process.

Lessons learned would be shared with the states and other NOAA Fisheries Regions.



Action has been postponed, pending further discussions with the States on the best approach.





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Thank You

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